

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9727

S E C R E T MANILA 13393

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, OVIP, RP (ROMULO, CARLOS P.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH ROMULO

REF: (A) STATE 213364, (B) MANILA 13277, (C) MANILA 13334

1. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROMULO MEETING WITH SECRETARY REPORTED  
REF C REPRESENTED DISCUSSIONS I HAD AUGUST 31 AND  
SEPTEMBER 1 WITH MARCOS AND ROMULO RESPECTIVELY. ROMULO  
AND ROMUALDEZ INFORMED ME FURTHERMORE THAT NSC MEETING TO  
BE HELD EVENING SEPTEMBER 1 (REF B) WOULD ESTABLISH  
DETAILED POSITION FOR ROMULO AND ROMUALDEZ TO CARRY TO  
WASHINGTON.

2. I WAS THEREFORE STARTLED TO RECEIVE TELEPHONE CALL  
FROM ROMUALDEZ LATE EVENING SEPTEMBER 1, TO INFORM ME OF  
RESULTS NSC MEETING. HE SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO INFORM  
ME THAT "MARCOS WILL NOT AUTHORIZE THE MEETING WITH THE  
SECRETARY UNTIL GOP RECEIVES U.S. ANSWER TO AIDE MEMOIRE  
PRESENTED TO DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON."

3. I POINTE OUT TO ROMUALDEZ THAT ORIGINAL SUGGESTION  
RE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO MANILA (REF A) SPECIFICALLY STATED  
THAT SECRETARY WOULD WISH DISCUSS QUESTIONS RAISED IN  
AIDE MEMOIRE AND THAT ALL SENIOR GOP OFFICIALS WERE AWARE  
OF THIS ASPECT IN THEIR CONSIDERATION OF VISIT. I FURTHER  
POINTED OUT THAT MEETING WHICH MARCOS NOW DISINCLINED TO  
"AUTHORIZE" WAS ARRANGED AT HIS INITIATIVE.

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4. ROMUALDEZ ACKNOWLEDGED BOTH THESE POINTS, BUT SIMPLY REPEATED INSTRUCTIONS WHICH HE HAD PREVIOUSLY STATED. I ASKED WHETHER THIS REPRESENTED REQUEST TO CANCEL APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY. ROMUALDEZ ANSWERED IN NEGATIVE AND SAID IT WAS TO BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST FOR ANSWER TO GOP AIDE MEMOIRE. I AM SEEKING MEETING WITH ROMUALDEZ SEPT. 2 IN EFFORT CLARIFY SITUATION FURTHER.

5. COMMENT: THIS LATEST GAMESMANSHIP GIVES FURTHER SUBSTANCE TO MY GROWING SUSPICION THAT MARCOS IS RELUCTANT, FOR SEVERAL REASONS, TO CONCLUDE MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT WITH US AT THIS TIME. IT WOULD APPEAR, THEREFORE, THAT GOP IS CONCENTRATING ON TACTICS WHICH WILL APPEAR TO LEAVE ANY IMPASSE WITH BALL IN U.S. COURT. THUS, IF U.S. DECIDES NOT RPT NOT TO PROVIDE ANSWER TO AIDE MEMOIRE AS SEPARATE ACTION IN ADVANCE OF MEETING WITH SECRETARY, GOP WILL FEEL ABLE TO SUSPEND ALL FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL AIDE MEMOIRE ANSWERED. IF U.S. DOES PROVIDE ANSWER IN ADVANCE, GOP WILL HAVE TO DEVISE SOME OTHER WAY TO SQUIRM.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST WHETHER IT IS WASHINGTON DECISION TO PROVIDE ANSWER TO AIDE MEMOIRE AS SEPARATE ACTION IN ADVANCE OF MEETING WITH SECRETARY. IF ANSWER IS AFFIRMATIVE, MEETING WILL PRESUMABLY BE CONFIRMED AND PLANNING CAN CONTINUE AS SCHEDULED. IF ANSWER IS NEGATIVE, I WOULD EXPECT MARCOS TO REMAIN ADAMANT IN HIS POSITION THAT ALL FURTHER ACTION ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE SUSPENDED.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** MARR, OVIP, RP, (ROMULO, CARLOS P), (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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